



# COMMISSIONERATE

## Health & Family Welfare Services

No: NVBDCP/EST – 7Z/Covid 19/ 2020-21

Date:28.6.2022

### CIRCULAR

Subject: Covid 19 - Testing, isolation, treatment, quarantine for clusters in Apartments , offices & Educational Institutions in BBMP and Bengaluru Urban district - Updated guidelines : Regarding.  
Reference: Proceedings of 174<sup>th</sup> meeting of State Covid 19 Technical Advisory Committee, Dated 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2022.

Considering the gradual rise of Covid 19 cases in Bangalore city from 10<sup>th</sup> June 2022 onwards, it is imperative to comply with the updated guidelines as mentioned below for Testing, Isolation, Treatment, Quarantine for clusters in Apartments /Offices/ Educational Institutions.

#### **1. Apartments**

In the case of occurrence of clusters in apartment complexes, the following actions shall be immediately taken.

- In case of small clusters ( 3-5.cases) all symptomatics in the apartment block on the floor ; in large cluster( $\geq 5$  cases) all symptomatics in the apartments of the block/tower; in outbreak ( $\geq 15$ cases) all symptomatics in the apartment complex as determined by the local health authority shall be tested by RAT and those positive shall be isolated and managed as per State guidelines i.e., home isolation/CCC/hospitalization depending on the medical condition of the Covid positive person.
- Additional sample for RT-PCR shall be taken from those who test RAT positive, for genomic sequencing and those samples with Ct value less than 25 shall be sent for WGS.
- All High Risk asymptomatics, like those above 60 years of age and / or co-morbid, shall also be tested by RT-PCR.
- Large scale / mass testing of the asymptomatics is not recommended, except if he/she is a primary contact.
- Strict enforcement of Covid Appropriate Behaviour like compulsory face masking, etc. in common areas should be ensured.
- For domestic helps working in households having COVID-19 infected person/s under home isolation, the following shall be duly complied.

- Shall be strictly asymptomatic (free from fever/cough/running nose/sore throat/breathing difficult/etc.)
- Shall wear N-95 mask while working.
- Shall be preferably two dose / precautionary dose vaccinated.
- The facilities in the common areas like club house, swimming pool, reading rooms, sports room, association office , etc. shall be closed till the recovery of last case of Covid 19. In the cluster subsequently the facilities shall be sanitized using 1% sodium hypochlorite solution ( 1 hour contact period ) and could be reused later on.
- There is no need to seal down/close down the floors/towers/blocks/ apartment complexes, etc. during this period.
- After the cluster/outbreak is denotified by the local health authority, those due for precautionary doses of vaccination shall be motivated to take the vaccination.

## 2. Offices and educational institutions/colleges (other than schools up to 12<sup>th</sup> standard)

- It should be informed that those with Covid symptoms shall not attend office, college, etc. Instead they should go in for RAT testing and if positive, isolate and be managed as per State protocol. If RAT is negative , then they should give sample for RT-PCR , isolate and await results of the test and act accordingly.
- If someone tests positive, primary contacts who are symptomatics shall be tested by RAT and if positive shall be isolated and managed as per State protocol.
- If clusters/ out breaks are reported then all symptomatics shall be tested by RAT and those found positive, shall be isolated and managed as per State guidelines like home isolation/CCC/hospitalization depending on the medical condition of the Covid positive person.
- Additional sample for RT-PCR shall be taken from those who test RAT positive for genomic sequencing and those samples with Ct value less than 25 shall be sent for WGS.
- All shall compulsorily wear face mask and maintain physical distancing.
- Large scale / mass testing of asymptomatics is not recommended.
- After cluster / outbreak the related office area / class room/s ( from where the positive case/s were reported ) shall be sanitized using 1% sodium hypochlorite solution ( 1 hour contact period ) and could be reused from the next day.
- However, there is no need to close down the offices and colleges/educational institutions.

- Those due for precautionary doses of vaccination shall be motivated to take the vaccination.

### 3. In schools (up to 12<sup>th</sup> standard)

- It should be informed that those with Covid symptoms shall not attend school . Instead they go in for RAT testing and if positive, isolate and be managed as per State protocol. If RAT negative , give sample for RT-PCR , isolate , await results of the test and act accordingly.
- If clusters/ out breaks are reported all symptomatics shall be tested by RAT and those positive, isolated and managed as per state guidelines like home isolation/CCC/hospitalization depending on the medical condition of the Covid positive person.
- Additional sample for RT-PCR shall be taken from those who test RAT positive for genomic sequencing and those samples with Ct value less than 25 shall be sent for WGS
- The related class room/s ( from where the positive case/s are reported ) shall be sanitized using 1% sodium hypochlorite solution ( 1 hour contact period ) and reused from the next day.
- There shall be strict compliance to Covid Appropriate Behaviour ( CAB) like compulsory face masking , physical distancing, provision for Hand sanitizer, screening for symptomatic at the entrance for fever using thermal scanner etc., And those found having fever / symptoms like cough , cold . throat pain , breathing difficulty are referred to seek medical consultation.
- However, there is no need to close down the schools.

The concerned authorities in BBMP and Bengaluru Urban District shall ensure that the Residents Welfare Associations in Apartments and Heads / Administrators at offices & educational institutions shall comply the same in the larger interest of Public Health.

  
( Randeep .D)<sup>29.06.22</sup>

Commissioner

Health & F W Services